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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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50X1-HUM

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SUBJECT Unrest among USIA Workers

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1. Considerable unrest is prevalent among the workers at USIA plants, owing to failure on the part of the management to pay the Christmas bonus of 200 Schillings which had been promised by the Volksstimme, Vienna KPOe daily. The Volksstimme article had stated that all USIA employees would receive a bonus prior to the holidays and several USIA firms paid the bonus in early January. Many USIA firms, however, denied that any commitments had ever been made. 50X1-HUM
2. Workers in several USIA plants started a slow-down movement, although the KPOe shop stewards have not favored this form of protest. The KPOe lost a great deal of prestige in these plants, since the workers are blaming the party officials for the confusion and for their subsequent failure to act against the USIA management. It is rumored that the Volksstimme discharged two staff members who were responsible for inserting the article pertaining to the payment of a Christmas bonus, without having cleared the story with USIA headquarters.

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